READ ME FILE

ACS SPM public use research extracts for 2009 through 2018 were originally released on Jul 20, 2020.

In Fall 2021, we released updated versions of the 2009 through 2018 research extracts as well as a new 2019 research extract. The 2021 update included improvements in the childcare and MOOP imputations and six additional variables (FILEDATE, TAX_ID, AGI, SPM_PREMIUM, MOOP_OTHER and MEDICARE_PARTB) added to the public use extracts.

In order to facilitate the use of the ACS SPM research extracts, the following table shows total SPM poverty counts (weighted and unweighted) using the ACS SPM research extracts.

Research File Year	Unweighted	Weighted (in thousands)
2019	382,186	45,559
2018	405,861	47,671
2017	412,858	48,437
2016	413,326	48,661
2015	421,937	49,829
2014	446,934	52,326
2013	451,068	52,200
2012	456,454	52,040
2011	467,210	52,445
2010	419,866	48,040
2009	388,495	45,277

The ACS SPM research extracts can be merged to the ACS public use files using the SERIALNO and SPORDER variables. Note that the SERIALNO format on the ACS public use file changed slightly starting in 2017, while SERIALNO on the ACS SPM research extracts has remained consistent across time. To merge files after 2016, we recommend users drop the "XXXXHU" prefix on SERIALNO from the ACS public use files.

SERIALNO formats:

2009-2019 ACS SPM file: 0000001..9999999

2009 – 2016 ACS file: 0000001..9999999

2017 ACS file: 20170000001..20179999999

 2018 ACS file:
 2018HU0000001..2018HU9999999

 2019 ACS file:
 2019HU0000001..2019HU9999999

¹ All files created after July 20, 2020 are assigned version numbers in YYYYMMDD format. Files created prior to this date do not have a version number. Beginning with 2021, this is the variable FILEDATE on the public use ACS SPM research extract.